

National Freedom of Information Office U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW (2310A) Washington, DC 20460

Dear FOIA Officer:

This is a request under the Freedom of Information Act. On behalf of ProPublica, The Texas Tribune and myself, jointly, I respectfully request the following public records:

- The Trace Atmospheric Gas Analyzer (TAGA) report filed after the March 2019 fire at the Intercontinental Terminals Company facility in Deer Park, TX that details air monitoring activities and findings.

I would like to receive the information in the following format: text-based (searchable) PDF.

As a representative of the news media I am only required to pay for the direct cost of duplication after the first 100 pages. This information is being sought on behalf of ProPublica and The Texas Tribune, two independent, non-profit news organizations, for dissemination to the general public.

Please waive any applicable fees. Release of the information is in the public interest because it will contribute significantly to public understanding of government operations and activities. As non-profit, journalistic entities, ProPublica and the Tribune do not have the same commercial interests of other news organizations.

If my request is denied in whole or part, I ask that you justify all deletions by reference to specific exemptions of the Act. I will also expect you to release all segregable portions of otherwise exempt material. I, of course, reserve the right to appeal your decision to withhold any information or to deny a waiver of fees.

I would like to note that I filed a FOIA request with the EPA last year (EPA-R6-2021-003661) that was narrowed to all TAGA reports resulting from monitoring activities in Texas over the past 20 years but the EPA did not include the requested TAGA report in its response. If the agency could explain why that is, I would appreciate it.

I am available to discuss any aspect of this request by phone at (512) 304-5049 or by email at kiah.collier@propublica.org.

I look forward to your reply, as the statute requires.

Sincerely,

Kiah Collier Reporter ProPublica/Texas Tribune 919 Congress Ave., 6th Fl Austin, TX 78701